



**Whereas**, on average, 700 people die each year in boating-related accidents in the U.S.; nearly 70% of these are fatalities caused by drowning; and

**Whereas**, the vast majority of these accidents are caused by human error or poor judgment and not by the boat, equipment, or environmental factors; and

**Whereas**, a significant number of boaters who lose their lives by drowning each year would be alive today had they worn their life jackets; and

**Whereas**, modern life jackets are more comfortable, more attractive, and more wearable than styles of years past and deserve a fresh look by today's boating public.

**Therefore**, I, Mayor Smith, do hereby support the goals of the North American Safe Boating Campaign and proclaim May 16-22, 2009, as National Safe Boating Week and the start of the year-round effort to promote safe boating.

**In Witness Whereof**, I urge all those who boat to "**Boat Smart. Boat Safe. Wear it.**" and practice safe boating habits.

**Given under my signature and the seal of**

Douglas C. Smith

**at the city of**

Southern Shores

**this**

5<sup>th</sup>

**day of**

May

, 2009.



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[www.SafeBoatingCampaign.com](http://www.SafeBoatingCampaign.com)